

# NEWS

*Geological Society of Minnesota*

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



Ethel A. Shimek  
2745 Colfax Ave. So.  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55408

RETURN REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS



Minnesota Geological Survey  
**LIBRARY**

Dr. Matt Walton  
Minnesota Geological Survey  
1633 Eustis St.  
St. Paul, MN 55108

April, May, and June 1979



#### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Robert Handschin	2029 Edgerton Rd. St. Paul	774-1431
VICE PRES.	Barbara Gudmundson	5505 28th Av. S. Mpls.	722-9132
SECRETARY	Dwight Robinson	1405 Hamline Ave. N. St. Paul	646-5913
TREASURER	Patricia Wigton	3349 Pierce St. N. E. Mpls.	781-0733
DIRECTORS	Myrtle Fore	4356 30th Ave. S. Mpls.	722-5650
	Allen Lundgren	765 Redwood Lane New Brighton	633-5442
	Mark Jefferys	9509 5th Ave. S. Mpls.	888-1274
	Marlys Lowe	2206 Caroline Lane So. St. Paul	461-2822
	Henry Gangl	2925 Sumpter Ave. N. Mpls.	545-3912

## HIGHLIGHTS from the BOARD

There were only two changes in the committee chairs. Mary Kimball takes over from Joann Podolinsky as chairwoman of the program committee. Pat Lewis, Allen Lundgren, Marlys Lowe and Rod Nerdahl will assist Mary. Ethel Shimek has handled publicity, and will edit the newsletter.

Thanks to Joann P.'s four years of providing excellent lecture series. And to Marcia Gunnville for her seven years as editor of the newsletter. She is now working part time for the Minnesota Geological Survey and continuing her University courses.

Michael Link, director, Northwoods Audubon Center at Sandstone thanks the Society for the soil testing kits donated as part of our public service program. He reports that this equipment is important for expanding the work of the center.

Further thanks to retiring president Marlys Lowe, and to retiring treasurer, Bob Leacock who is moving to Arizona.

#### FIELD TRIPS ????

Bob Gunnville hopes to have four or five field trips arranged by the Banquet. So far, he has nothing definite.

## A SKETCH OF THE ORIGINS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA - PART TWO

From a talk given to the 40th Annual Meeting, Sept. 25, 1978

By Robert Handschin, Vice-President

The establishment of the Society in January, 1938 and its rapid growth depended not only on the dynamic leadership of Edward P. Burch and his close friends, but also on the place selected as a home for the Society. That place was the Minneapolis Public Library, which with its Science Museum, was a center for many hobby clubs. The library then at 10th Street and Hennepin Avenue was a 4-story, red granite building opened in 1889 under the leadership of Herbert Putnam, later for 40 years head of the Library of Congress. The library had long been a center for science interests, had meeting rooms, and a staff to encourage such groups as the Society, as well as being in a central location where members could assemble to set out on their numerous field trips.

The Science Museum was itself a direct outgrowth of the Minnesota Academy of Natural Science founded in 1872 at the urging of Professor Newton H. Winchell, first director of the Minnesota Geological Survey. The museum was started within weeks after Winchell's arrival in Minnesota to set up the Survey for which he was hired by President W. W. Folwell of the University. Winchell remained head of the Survey for 28 years, completing in 1900 his six-volume report on the geology of the state. His pioneer estimate of 7803 years for the period of retreating ice from the last glacier, as measured by the retreat of the Falls of St. Anthony, was an important contribution. He began the Survey on foot in 1872.

The Minnesota Academy of Natural Science, a group of citizens whose interest centered on geology but extended to other fields, began lectures, field trips and later even foreign expeditions, and collections which became the Science Museum of the library.

During the 1930s many clubs were active at the library. The Minnesota Archeology Society was founded there in 1932. After 1933 federal work relief funds allowed staff to be employed, such as Dr. Maynard Stevens, a geologist. In 1934 he helped organize the Minnesota Mineral and Gem Club at the library, and also held Saturday morning geology classes for several years. In 1937 he was replaced by Milton Thompson, a naturalist from the Iron Range. He helped organize the Minnesota Botanical Club whose president, Junior Hayden, became the first president of the Society in 1938. Other clubs at that time were concerned with astronomy, aquariums, bird-watchers, camera bugs, junior naturalists, and beginning with January 1938, the Geological Society of Minneapolis, soon to change its name to Geological Society of Minnesota.

These many flourishing groups helped make possible the rapid growth of the Society, as many members came from these other activities. The library remained the center for the Society until the fall of 1949, when a tight library budget required fees to be paid by club members. It was then that the Society's lectures were shifted to the University, which permitted free use of rooms, where they have remained ever since.

The Minneapolis Public Library moved into its present building in 1950, and its Science Museum program has continued to be very active. In 1978 the Minneapolis and St. Paul Science Museums merged to become the Science Museum of Minnesota. The St. Paul member dates from 1907.

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# New Members

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Margaret Smith  
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Ella Mattson  
R. R. 1, Box 110  
Luck Wis. 55853

Eleanor R. Hoover  
4213 Zenith Ave. S.  
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Timotay W. and Sheila J. O'Malley  
1978 Ashland Ave.  
St. Paul, Minn. 55104

Ray Uroanski  
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Minneapolis, Minn. 55418

Vern Bartholomew  
3509 Portland Ave.  
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## BOOK REVIEWS

EVER SINCE DARWIN - Reflections in Natural History by Stephen J. Gould.  
W. W. Norton Company, New York, 1977. Hardcover \$9.95.

Those already familiar with Stephen Jay Gould's column, "This View of Life", in the Natural History magazine will be very glad to know that 33 of these choice nuggets have been compiled under one cover by the author. The result is a provocative whole which seems to far exceed the simple sum of its parts. The unifying theme is Darwin's evolutionary perspective. Gould offers us the lot simply because many people like them (and equally many do not), and because Gould sees them as an antidote to our cosmic arrogance as a species.

If not quite cosmic in scope, there is quite enough here for those who enjoy contemplating their own tiny cosmic predicament. That certainly includes most geological types. The topics range far and wide from the Cambrian explosion as a possible "sigmoid fraud" to more contemporary fraud in the essay, "Velikovsky in Collision". Some research in the library leads Gould to an interesting and somehow "overlooked" aspect of Charles Lyell's thinking. The problem of brain size and intelligence, the "great dying" at the close of the Cretaceous, evolutionary aspects of altruism, the latest renaissance of biological determinism and many more topics are tackled with refreshing vigor and candor.

In the true Darwinian tradition, Gould observes that "the best illustrations of adaptation by evolution are the ones that strike our intuition as peculiar or bizarre", not those that fit into our very anthropocentric ideas of "ideal design". Take the cecidomyian gall midges for example. These little flies thrive on fungi (especially mushrooms) in a manner which from our viewpoint seems not only unjust but downright revolting. During seasons of plenty, these flies skip sex altogether in the interest of turning as much mushroom into fly as is "flyly" possible. To telescope generation time, the young flies (larvae) do not bother to mature but simply proceed to eat their mother up from the inside out. They in turn undergo a similar fate, etc., as long as the mushroom lasts. I won't go on to explain the dilemma of the gall midges. That would spoil all the fun. Suffice to say that such goings-on will seem quite odd to a consummate K-strategist.

Gould bets that we will have Darwin to "kick around" for some time to come. I hope that applies to Gould as well.

Dwight Robinson

# SPRING BANQUET

MON. APR. 23, '79

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Place

Time - 6:15 p.m.

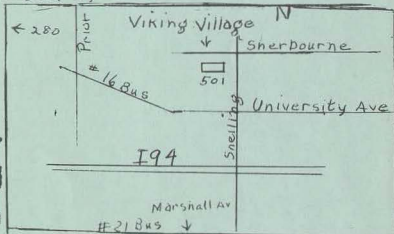
St Paul Viking Village Smorgasbrod  
501 N. Snelling

Cost \$4.20 incl. Tax & Beverage Dessert Extra

Program - Film - 7:00 p.m.

Rafting thru the Marble and Grand Canyons

plus  
Short Slide talk by Bob & Marsha Gunville



DEADLINE APRIL 1

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You must renew your membership by April 1 in order to be included in the 1979 Roster which will be ready for distribution at the Banquet. So says Marjorie Mc Gladery, Membership Chairman.

# RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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## ARIZONA:

The State Bureau of Geology and Mineral Technology, 845 North Park Ave., Tucson, Arizona, 86719, has a free list of available publications. They range from geology of specific areas to technical mining publications.

Some, which G.S.M. members may be interested in, are:

#171. A Resume' of the Geology of Arizona (\$1.50), good, small, but detailed description of general geology of the state.

#174, 176, 183, 184. Geol. Guidebooks I, II, III and IV, Highways of Arizona. Detailed and very good, but plan on concentrating on the geology of the area and not sightseeing. They describe roadside geology but not that range of mountains across the valley. You need a lot of time to use them to the fullest extent.

There are geologic maps available for each of the Arizona counties (\$.75 - \$1.00 each) and geologic cross sections (\$1.00 each).

Mineralogy of Arizona, by J. W. Anthony, S. A. Williams and R. A. Bideaux. (The U of Arizona Press 1977) \$9.95 soft cover, \$22.50 clothbound.

An outstanding encyclopedia of over 600 minerals found in Arizona. There is a description of each mineral, location by county and area, and full color beautiful photographs of crystals. It's a beautiful book to own, to browse through, and to use as a reference. A must for southwestern mineral collectors.

Mineral and Gem Localities in Arizona, by Lee Hammons (Arizona Maps and Books, P. O. Box 1133, Sedona, Arizona 86336) 1977, \$5.25.

A good reference for anyone interested in minerals of Arizona. The first section is a discussion of general collecting; the rest of the book consists of maps showing mine locations and good collecting areas. They are precisely detailed and, as far as our experience goes, very accurate. The maps are colored to indicate geological environments. The major drawback is that it doesn't show which are public and which are private lands, to know where one can freely go.

## Contributors

Barbara Lundgren - New Publications; Bob Handschin - History and Board Doings; Dwight Robinson - Book Review

Assistants: James Erickson - Art; Toini Mackie - Typing; Ann and Irene Jaworski - assembling and mailing.



# SPRING SHOW

## THE MINNESOTA MINERAL CLUB SHOW

The Minnesota Mineral Club is holding its 34th Annual Gem and Mineral Show on Saturday, April 21st, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday, April 22nd, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. The show will be held at Maplewood Mall, located at the intersection of I 694 and White Bear Avenue in St. Paul.

The theme this year will be "Show and Tell". The club members will be exhibiting minerals, polished stones and jewelry. They will also be demonstrating various lapidary arts. They hope to indicate the various and many uses that can be made of stones picked up by anyone.

There is no admission charge for this educational and informative display. It will be of interest to persons of all ages, with local craftsmen and hobbyists displaying their finest work and favorite stones.

The Minnesota Mineral Club is the largest mineral club in the state, with 350 members. It was organized in 1945 on a non-profit basis. The club has won many prizes over the years for its activities and public services.

## WORTHY OF NOTE

### Elm Creek Rest Area Display to be Installed Soon

The Public Service Committee, chaired by Sr. Joan Kain, has been working for a number of years to get some geological information installed at highway rest stops.

The first one is nearing completion at the Elm Creek Rest Area, located at the junction of 494 and 694 northwest of Minneapolis.

Titled "How Did We Get Our Lakes?", it will contain photos of metro area lakes, a map showing locations of glacial deposits, and a short text.

The Society is buying the case and donating it to the highway department. The project is a joint venture of the Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Geological Survey and the Geological Society of Minnesota.

### MEETING NOTICE:

April 12, 1979 - "Fossil Insects of the Ruby River Basin of Southwestern Montana", by Dr. Stanley Lewis, Department of Entomology, St. Cloud State University.

Place: 490 Hodson Hall, University of Minnesota Campus, St. Paul.

Time: 8:00 P.M.

## Don't Miss - - -

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Sr. Joan Kain will give a noon time slide show and lecture on her recent booklet about downtown St. Paul buildings and their materials at the Landmark Center, 75 W. Fifth Street, room 317, on April 23. Both show and booklet are sponsored by the Ramsey County Historical Society, members and senior citizens free.

"Roxy Roots, Three Geology Walking Tours of Downtown St. Paul" was written and prepared by Sr. Joan. It contains illustrations of 58 buildings, costs \$1.25 and is available at the Historical Society and Minnesota Science Museum.

Although she suffered a broken hip in February, Sr. Joan is doing nicely now and expects to be able to give the lecture as well as return to teaching at St. Catherine's soon.

## Banquet

We have all been looking forward to the annual spring Banquet on Monday, April 23. Unfortunately, Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church is not available this year.

While searching for an alternative, we found that inflation has boosted the price of sit-down dinners to a minimum of \$7.00. Knowing that a higher cost might keep a number of members from attending, we decided on the St. Paul Viking Village at 501 No. Snelling. It is one block north of University Ave. at Sherbourne, with off-street parking available adjoining the building and in the Twin City Federal lot on the corner.

## History. cont

The move to the University was aided by influential members of the Geology Department, which had long been interested in the Society as a means of popularizing geology. Two in particular stand out as Society supporters: Dr. George M. Schwartz and Dr. George A. Thiel. Both were outstanding supporters who had joined the staff after World War I, and served for many years in the Department and the Survey. They are still honorary members of the Society in their retirement.

Schwartz completed a history of the Survey in 1966, and of the Geology Department in 1972. The Society is indebted to these two men and to many other public-spirited men who have led field trips and given lectures these 40 years.

Thus the seedbed in which the Society grew was a deep citizens' interest in geology going clear back to 1872, which helped to form the Science Museum, and to support the University's Department and Survey. Without such established science-oriented centers the Society would not have prospered as it has through these changing years.

(To be continued)